

Daily Eagle

R. R. TIME TABLES.

Denver, Memphis & Atlantic.

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A MODERN UTOPIA.

A LAND ALMOST AS ENCHANTING
AS A DREAM OF PARADISE.Pleasing Characteristics of the Japanese
People—A Country of Many Holidays.
The Poor Never Overworked—Flower
Festivals—Sacred Mountains.Living in such scenes of enchantment, these
people are as light of heart and sunny in dis-
position as children, and so polite and pleas-
ure loving as to excite the admiration of even
their French and Italian visitors. There is
no dwelling so humble but it has a spot for
trees and flowers. The rich have gardens in
which are faithful reproductions in miniature
of their varied landscapes, hidden in trees and
flowering shrubbery. Every farmer's plot
of land is beautiful and adorned. The gold
of the ripened rice and wheat is contrasted
against a background of green foliage. What-
ever name may be given to the religion of
that people, and whatever creeds and doc-
trines may have been engrafted upon their
beliefs, the main features of their worship is
an intense love, amounting almost to an adora-
tion, of nature. This appears in their whole
life. They have built their temples on the
sides of the great mountains, enveloped
them in overhanging groves, and surrounded
them with everything of flowering shrub.
The sides of these mountains are covered
with the surrounding country, and usually are
near fountains and waterfalls. The village
shrines are located in the most charming spot
of the neighborhood, and no labor is spared
to adorn and beautify them. The highways
are bordered by rows of trees planted cen-
turies ago, whose branches form an evergreen
arch over the head of the traveler. The road
to Nikko, where the temples and tombs of the
tycoons are situated, has a grand avenue of
giant firs. For sixty miles one may ride in
the shade of these wide branching trees.
From Yokohama south of Kyoto, the old Cap-
ital, 400 miles, the road is one continuously
shaded avenue, winding along the ocean
shore, around narrow bays and inlets and
over high hills and mountain sides.UNLIFE their neighbors, the Chinese, the
Japanese take time from their toil to enjoy
all this. Their government may have been
despotic and arbitrary, but it never over-
worked its laboring population. It gave
them more holidays than any people under
the sun ever enjoyed. They had what was
known as the "rich-riki" days—that is, all
the days in the lunar months that were desig-
nated by one or six. Thus the 1st, 6th, 11th,
16th, 21st and 26th days of each month were
legal holidays. In addition to these the
birthdays of the ruling emperor and empress,
and also of several of the greatest of their
predecessors of the ruling dynasty, which
reaches back through 2,000 years, are holi-
days. Every village has holidays in honor
of its patron saint, and the saints of the
famous temples and shrines have festival days.
On all of these the people, in their holiday
dresses, gather at the temples and shrines for
thanksgiving and to admire the beauties of
earth and sky. Pilgrimages are a marked
feature of the Japanese life, but they are not
characterized by the austerity of the Chris-
tian and Mohammedan world. No school
children, liberated from long study, could be
happier and gayer than these people as they
go along the shaded highways. Whole neigh-
borhoods turn out their population, leaving
only enough people at home to care for the
households, and go sometimes hundreds of
miles on what may appropriately be called
these religious pilgrimages. They walk along
the shaded avenues, talking, laughing and sing-
ing. They rest when weary from walking in
the shade of the great trees by some clear
stream or some bubbling spring. All these
great highways are lined with tea booths,
where tea, rice, eggs and cakes can be had for
an incomparably low price.In the villages, which are almost contin-
uous along these roads, there are numerous
hotels where these pleasure seeking pilgrims
get their dusty feet bathed on arrival, a bath
before retiring, two meals and a bed for ten
or fifteen cents for each person. Forty miles
east from Yedo are the temples of Narita,
situated in a picturesque spot of the great
central mountain range. The road leading
there is one long avenue of trees planted 500
years ago. It runs through green, fertile
fields with the Bay of Yedo, dotted with
countless white sails on the one hand, and the
great mountains on the other. During half
the year this broad road is lined with parties
of pilgrims on their way to or from these
temples. Every mile or two has its village
of hotels for the entertainment of these
people. Some of these caravansaries accom-
modate 600 guests. The number of people visit-
ing these shrines annually will reach more
than 100,000. In the spring, when the rice
has been planted, the national rice festival
takes place. This festival continues for six
days. The people go out into the fields, into
the valleys, or on to the terrace hill and
mountain sides to the shrines of the patron
saint of agriculture, and there give thanks
for the sun and rain that have given such
promise of an abundant harvest. At night
every town brilliantly lighted, and rejoic-
ing with music and dancing is heard long
into the night.The spring and summer bring the flower
festivals, when city and village streets for
miles are filled with the most beautiful floral
exhibitions and crowds of admiring people.
There is no more beautiful sight than one of
these long, wide streets lighted at night and
filled with flowers. The love of the beautiful
has led the Japanese to fence the groves
pleasure of eating the first of the cherry
tree in order that they may enjoy the beauty
and fragrance of the cherry blossoms. There
are large groves of the double flowered cherry
trees in all parts of the country, which grow
to enormous size. The flower is as large as a
rose, and when in full bloom these groves are
a marvel of beauty, and are visited by thou-
sands of people, who spend the whole day in
these groves admiring the flowers. The cherry
groves are to be found in all towns and villages
are points of great attraction. In these are
seen every variety of flower, from the most
simple of color and almost every color of flower.The summer sees streams of people, the
poor as well as the rich, going to the sea at
the Fajama, the port of mountains. No per-
son is so poor and no distance so great that
what several pilgrimages are made in a life-
time to this vast mountain range. In the
autumn, when the golden rice and wheat,
and the brown millet have been gathered,
the harvest festival is held in every part of
the country. There in the groves, on soft
green carpets spread by nature, under the
full harvest moon, they make merry, sing
after night, with song and dance. At these
harvest festivals dances, from once to
passant, rejoice over the ample winter's
store. It is not only in this intense worship
of nature that the beauty of their country
has influenced their natural character.
It is seen in their domestic inter-
course. In all the conventionalities of po-
lite life they are far in advance of any people
in the Occident. This refined politeness re-
vives every grade of society. It is just as
noticeable among the lower as in the higher
classes. To be rude in word or act is to
cause a social outrage. The poorest workers
when they meet, greet each other as polit-
ely and with the compliments of the day as freely
and feelingly as do those of higher stations.
While the vocabulary of compliments and
blessings is a long one there are no words for
a curse in their whole language.—Cor. San
Francisco Chronicle.

Consumption of Pig Iron.

A contemporary says: "We consumed
much more pig iron the first six months of
this year than during the corresponding
period of last year." Better move back to
the old boarding house.—New Haven News.

The King of Holland.

The king of Holland is an admirer of
American institutions. He has his palace
at Amsterdam with an American bar burn-
ing coal stove, and he has his eye on a tin
can poacher.—New York Journal.

123 and 125 MAIN STREET.

Buy Dry Goods Now.

Our Entire Stock at Cost and
Less than Cost.

Everything Reduced.

Big Cuts in Dress Goods and
Wraps.

A lot of Children's Cloaks 25 cts.

N. B. The only exceptions we make to
this Cost sale are Foster's Kids and Ball
and Warner's Coksets.

Philadelphia Store

Corner Douglas av. and Market St.

Closing Out

Our Shoe Department!

Needing more room for our constantly
increasing Dry Goods trade, we have de-
termined to close out our

Boot and Shoe Department.

We have a stock of about \$12,000
worth of Boots and Shoes, which will be
sold at any price to insure their speedy sale.
We must have the room for our early
Spring Business.

Come and Get Bargains.

A. KATZ.

S. W. Corner Douglas Ave. and Market St.

E. C. & L. R. COLE'S

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This Sub-division will be sold at Auction, on
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FEBRUARY 23d, 1887,

Consisting of 384 lots. The upset
price will be

\$75 PER LOT \$75

This beautiful plot of ground lies north of
Carey Park on Arkansas avenue, the finest
drive out of the city. Everybody should at-
tend the sale. Everybody should buy one or
more lots. They will make you money.
This is

A Chance in a Lifetime.

To own Wichita Real Estate is better than
gold, it enhances in value while you sleep.
Don't forget the day,

FEBRUARY 23d, 1887.

There will be thousands of people from home
and abroad at this sale. You are requested
to be one. For further particulars address

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A. W. OLIVER, City President. J. C. ELLIS, Secretary.

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